

LEXINGTON'S FIRE LOSSES RUN CLOSE TO \$800,000

Five of the Largest Mercantile Stores Included in Tuesday's Fire—Origin Unknown

Lexington witnessed one of the most disastrous fires Tuesday that has been reported in that city for many years. The fire, which started from an unknown origin, was discovered by Mr. Dolphie Wiley at 10:30 o'clock, when he noticed smoke issuing from the ventilators on the street from the basement of the Wolfe, Wile & Company's store, of which he was one of the owners.

Five of Lexington's big stores, including Wolfe, Wile & Company, Kaufman Clothing Company, J. D. Purcell Company, Peerless Company and Hammel's store, suffered heavy losses from the disastrous Main street fire, estimated to reach close to \$800,000.

It will take several days before some of these well known firms will be ready to continue business. Announcement was made late Tuesday afternoon that Wolfe, Wile & Company and the Kaufman Clothing Company were the greatest sufferers from the fire, and that they would establish temporary offices on the third floor of the Lexington Leader building.

Details of the conflagration in the Leader give one some impression of the devastation of this disastrous blaze:

"Fire, the origin of which has not been determined, breaking out in the basement of the Wolfe, Wile & Company's department store at 10 Tuesday morning, had totally destroyed that building adjoining on the east, which is occupied by the Kaufman Clothing Company, within an hour and a half in spite of all the efforts of the entire Lexington fire department and scores of volunteer workers to control the flames.

"The fire started in the basement under the sidewalk and swept up the elevator shaft to the upper floors within a few minutes.

"When the fire department reached the store smoke was pouring out of the upper front windows.

"Several streams of water were started on the fire immediately, but the flames continued to spread rapidly and a portion of the wall had collapsed on the roof of the Kaufman Company store within 30 minutes.

"Soon after this two lines of hose were taken into the Kaufman store to fight the flames, which had broken in through the hole in the roof caused by the falling wall.

"Several additional hose lines were taken to the roof of the building and played on the Kaufman building, but it seemed at 11:45 o'clock that this building and contents also would be practically a total loss.

"Fire had not reached the inside of the J. D. Purcell Company's store at 11:30 o'clock, but the goods on the third and fourth floors were badly damaged by smoke and water.

"Volunteers directed by firemen took two lines of hose to the roof of the Purcell building and played streams of water into the seething furnace below.

After the Wolfe-Wile roof had fallen in the two streams of water being played upon the fire from the aerial truck were halted a minute for the tower to be lowered and the truck moved to the north side of Main street to be out of reach of the front wall, which showed signs of falling. The front of the building, however, withstood the terrific heat and was still standing at noon.

"The fire started at 10:10 in the basement of Wolfe, Wile & Company, 322-324 West Main street, and spread to the Kaufman Clothing Company, 314-316 West Main street.

"Dolphie Wiley, one of the owners of Wolfe, Wile & Company, was standing in the front door talking to Richard Van Der Veer when he noticed smoke curling up thru the ventilators on the street from the basement. The cause of the fire is unknown. It spread rapidly and soon after it was discovered the flames started shooting up the elevator shaft.

Mr. Wile and Mr. Van Der Veer rushed to the third floor and spread the alarm among the clerks. About 90 persons are employed in the building, but all escaped without injury and in perfect order. There was no evidence of a panic in any of the buildings.

"The entire equipment of the fire department responded to the alarm and 11 streams of water were played on the burning buildings. All available police were summoned for duty in the burning district and police lines were stretched. The lines were stretched at Broadway and Mill streets on Main and Water streets. Police and detectives joined kept the crowds back.

"Thousands gathered to watch the burning buildings. The police ambulance was called and was ready for emergency.

"Soon after the fire was discovered the entire building occupied by Wolfe, Wile & Company was a mass of flames.

"The roof fell about 10:45 and bricks fell on the rear part of the Kaufman Clothing Company building when part of the wall gave way.

Five streams of water were played on the fire from Main street and six sets of hose were used from Water street. Two lines of hose were placed on the extension ladder and the flames on the third floor of the burning Wolfe, Wile & Company building on the Main street side were fought.

"Strong pressure was maintained by the automobile fire pumps.

"Firemen sealed the five-story fire escape of the J. D. Purcell Company building from Water street with a hose, but later brought it down and placed it in the windows of the fourth floor. Several firemen remained on the roof to direct the throwing of water.

"Three streams were played on the building of Wolfe, Wile & Company from Water street. The firemen climbed the roofs of nearby buildings with two more hose.

"For a while it appeared as if the entire block would be destroyed, but the firemen worked with determination, and succeeded in confining the flames to the three buildings.

"From the roof of Wolfe, Wile & Company the flames shot skyward for about 50 feet and the smoke from the fire could be seen for miles.

"All traffic on Main and Water streets were held up by the rope lines and even railroad engines could not pass on Water street.

"In the Kaufman Clothing Company water was thrown over a large part of the stock in an effort to check the blaze on the second floor.

"Windows of every building from which the fire could be seen were filled by people watching the fire. Many other persons were on the roofs.

"Scores came from surrounding towns when they heard of the conflagration."

CLEVELAND HOTEL SWEEP BY FLAMES

Cleveland, O., Jan. 12.—Two men are dead from burns and suffocation and eight persons were injured in a fire which swept the Chestnut hotel, early Tuesday morning.

Several persons are said to be missing. Firemen and police were searching the still blazing building for additional bodies three hours after the fire started.

The injured, including three women, were hurt in wild leaps from second story windows. Life nets were spread by firemen, but in the dense smoke and darkness several of those injured were hurt when they missed the nets.

Police say that the fire escape collapsed a few minutes after the fire started, cutting off escape by the iron structure after a few of the hotel occupants had reached safety that way. The dead are: Andrew Wurmle, 49, a waiter, burned to death; Clarence Wurmle, 49, a waiter, burned to death; Clarence Wurmle, 49, a waiter, burned to death.

SALES CONTINUE ON LOCAL MARKET

Average of 17 Cents Reported at Tuesday's Sales—One Basket Brings \$50

The Richmond tobacco warehouses continued selling tobacco Tuesday, and the average of the last few days of 17 cents is still maintained. According to a large number of expressions from those on the floor at the Madison House Tuesday this average was considered good, taking into consideration the quality of tobacco offered. Over 125,000 pounds went over the breaks Tuesday, with a smaller per cent of rejections than on previous sales. One basket included in the sales went over the \$50 mark.

In an interview with one of the largest tobacco growers in this county Wednesday morning, it was learned that the sentiment of the Madison county growers favors the 1921 crop, and also that the present crop continue selling. This gentleman, whose name is withheld, stated that he had been at the local warehouses daily and from his observations not a single crop on the floors has been shipped, every man giving his permission to sell.

The proposition is left to the owner whether his tobacco is offered, and drawing conclusions from the ready response on the part of them to sell, naturally leads one to believe that the sentiment in Madison county is to sell the 1920 crop. However, it is up to the majority of tobacco men to get together and make their intentions known, and unless this is done, no matter how strong may be the sentiment for continuing the sale of the present crop and not cutting the 1921 crop their desires will be naught, but it is the belief of a large number of prominent farmers in this section that the sales will continue in Madison county.

Some sales at the Madison House Tuesday:

O. B. Peyton sold: 270 at \$1.70; 110 at \$2; 45 at \$2.50; 85 at \$6; 100 at \$4; Yates and Devore sold: 50 at 50c; 135 at \$2.50; 85 at \$1.20; 85 at \$2.10; 30 at \$2.50; 60 at \$1; 25 at \$3.90; 65 at \$3.70; 30 at \$3.10.

Abney and Simpson sold: 140 at \$2.25; 285 at \$22; 145 at \$34; 255 at \$35; 240 at \$14; 130 at \$1.

Hayden and Long sold: 385 at \$22; 225 at \$28; 235 at \$37; 335 at \$42; 430 at \$44; 370 at \$40; 255 at \$39; 265 at \$24; 205 at \$26; 135 at \$2.60.

Broadus and Larriett sold: 135 at \$1.70; 270 at \$18.50; 65 at \$16.50; 85 at \$5; 200 at \$7; 335 at \$7; 480 at \$3.20; 225 at \$2.

Kenny Bishop sold: 105 at \$2.90; 75 at \$3.20; 215 at \$6.75; 215 at \$7; 160 at \$5.20; 140 at \$11.25; 165 at \$7; 140 at \$10; 60 at \$14.

Evans Bros. sold: 200 at \$6; 160 at \$2; 210 at \$12.75; 320 at \$31; 395 at \$33; 28 at \$18.50; 265 at \$11.25; 120 at \$2.20; 185 at \$26; 185 at \$11.25; 160 at \$29; 160 at \$29; 255 at \$28; 210 at \$31; 200 at \$7.50.

Bowman and Isaacs sold: 175 at \$9.75; 200 at \$4.70; 20 at \$14; 250 at \$1.10.

Norman Jenkins sold: 20 at \$36; 110 at \$32; 140 at \$3; 160 at \$4.

Jenkins and Newby sold: 120 at \$8; 55 at \$19; 190 at \$40; 80 at \$50; 150 at \$50; 440 at \$42; 230 at \$39; 655 at \$38; 430 at \$28; 265 at \$6.25.

W. D. Smith and Warren sold: 315 at \$1.60; 370 at \$13.25; 160 at \$21; 610 at \$21; 350 at \$15; 465 at \$10.25; 230 at \$1.60.

Arnold and Son sold: 230 at \$3.70; 280 at \$3.96; 440 at \$9; 420 at \$8; 330 at \$8.25; 500 at \$13.50; 275 at \$6.25; 370 at \$3.60; 15 at \$1.60.

Million and Moores sold: 70 at \$3.10; 200 at \$10; 95 at \$10.25; 130 at \$40; 135 at \$23; 130 at \$5.60.

Clark and VanWinkle sold: 200 at \$1; 145 at \$3.60; 45 at \$3.60; 105 at \$1.

INSURANCE SUICIDE CLAUSE NOT SUSTAINED

Louisville.—In ruling that Miss Florence Harris had a cause for action against an insurance company, Judge Gordon ruled that under the law of Kentucky a insurance company can not have a suicide clause in a policy to be exempt from its payment if it is shown that the insured did not have mental capacity sufficient to understand the nature and result of his act.

Berg had made his way from his room but collapsed outside in the hall overcome by smoke.

Wurmle, fire officials say, was responsible for the fire, thru the careless handling of a burning cigarette.

MEN LIKE THESE WOULD RULE YOU



TYPES OF COMMUNIST AGITATORS DEPORTED BY U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

ADOLPH SCHNABEL, Leader of Union of Russian Workers, a powerful, anarchistic organization in America.
ALEXANDER SCHATZ, Leader of Communist group in this Country.
JOHN DUBOFF, Active organizer of Communist group in Elizabeth, N. J.
NICHOLAS MICHAIOV, Violent agitator among anarchists in America.

REDUCING NUMBER OF YANKS IN GERMANY

Army of Occupation Reduced in Numbers to 8,000—Present Cost Was \$75,000 a Day

(By Associated Press) Washington, Jan. 12.—Reduction of the American forces in Germany from 15,000 to 8,000 has been ordered by the War Department. Secretary Baker said the reduction was already under way, and added that the ultimate withdrawal of the entire force was a matter of "future consideration." The cost of maintaining a force of 15,000 amounted to \$75,000 per day, which Germany must pay under terms of the armistice.

Preminent Hopkinsville Citizen Kills Himself

(By Associated Press) Hopkinsville, Ky., Jan. 12.—Gabe L. Campbell, 53, real estate dealer, bank director and prominent Republican politician, shot and killed himself here today. He had been in ill health and encountered financial reverses. He leaves a widow and eight children.

HARVEY SMITH DEAD FROM AN OPERATION

News was received by relatives here this morning that Harvey Smith, youngest son of Mrs. J. W. Smith, died during a mastoid operation in Louisville. Full particulars as to arrangement for the funeral or time of arrival here had not been learned as the Daily Register goes to press.

DUGOUT OF WAR PATTERN BECOMES STILL SHELTER

Pineville, Ky.—Arno Ballard, Stony Point, was held to the federal grand jury on the charge of operating a still found in a dugout reached through a trap door under his home, officials allege. A gallon of moonshine was destroyed.

Weather For Kentucky

Fair tonight and probably tomorrow; colder tonight.

Today's Livestock Markets

Cincinnati, Jan. 12.—Cattle steady; slower; calves lower; Chicago higher; packers medium 25c higher.

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 12.—Cattle 100; steady and unchanged; hogs 1500; 25c and 50c higher; tops \$9.50; sheep 50; steady and unchanged.

MADISON TO CONTINUE SALES; AND VOTES NO "CUT-OUT"

Committee Named to Attend the Lexington Meeting Thursday and Give Decisions

Complying with the request made by the Burley Tobacco Growers Association for a mass meeting of the tobacco growers of Madison county, the lower court room was jammed to the front door Wednesday afternoon at 1 o'clock.

Mr. Green Clay, acting secretary for the Burley Tobacco Growers' Association, called the meeting to order, and nominations were made for a chairman of the meeting, with the result that Mr. Waller Bennett was unanimously elected, and E. T. Wiggins, representing the press, was chosen secretary.

Mr. Clay gave very clearly the reasons for the meeting being called, asking that free discussion of the tobacco situation in Madison county be given by anyone desiring to express themselves.

Mr. Bennett, chairman, after again stressing the point that the meeting was for the Madison growers, called upon several to give their views on the situation whether or not the tobacco warehouses in Richmond should close and the farmers hold their crops with the expectation of getting better prices, and whether or not the farmers should join the Growers' Association in cutting out the 1921 crop if they so decided at their meeting in Lexington on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock.

Mr. T. H. West was the first speaker, who favored holding the tobacco and for a cut-out of the 1921 crop. Dr. G. G. Perr took the floor and made several good points why it was for the farmers' interest for the local warehouses to remain open and sell their tobacco and cut the 1921 crop down, but not agreeing for a complete cut-out.

Attorney O. P. Jackson made a few splendid remarks, discussing the question from both standpoints of view, and offering suggestions as he thought best for the Madison farmers. He was followed by Mr. Warfield Bennett, who is not only a grower, but is interested in one of the local warehouses. It is his talk he stated that it would not be doing the warehousemen right for the farmer to withhold their tobacco and pool it in Lexington, which is clamoring to be the tobacco center of the state. He pointed out that the tobacco warehouses here were not forcing any man to sell his crop. They were open for the sale of their tobacco if they wanted to do so, and that they had the tobacco men's interest at heart, and that if the houses here were forced to close for twelve months or more they were taking chances of losing money, or perhaps never to be able to reopen. His views brought loud applause from all parts of the house.

Hon. W. B. Smith, Mr. Newby, a farmer; Mr. T. S. Burnam, N. B. Deatherage, Col. H. B. Hanger and others spoke on the questions, some for, while others were opposed to the closing of the present market and the cut-out of the 1921 crop.

At the conclusion of the talks by the above named gentlemen, Chairman Waller Bennett asked the crowd if they were ready for the question to be voted upon. With loud cries of "we are ready" and after order had been restored, the chairman in a very clear manner put the two questions before the house, namely: First, "Are you in favor of stopping the sales of the present crop?" Second, "Are you in favor of a cut-out of the 1921 crop?" On the first question there was an almost unanimous vote on the question that the houses in Richmond remain open, and that the farmers continue selling their crops. Upon the second question there was no doubt left in the minds of anyone that the majority of the farmers present were against the cut-out for 1921. The chairman then appointed a committee of four, composed of Messrs. Dick Igo, Neale Bennett, Judge W. J. M. Price and Warfield Bennett, to represent Madison county at the meeting at Lexington Thursday, and convey to them the sentiments and decision of Madison county tobacco growers. This brought to a conclusion one of the most interesting meetings ever held by farmers in this county.

GEN. BLISS SAYS WORLD IS READY TO DROP ARMS

Thinks Nations Would Respond Promptly to U. S. Call for a World Conference

(By Associated Press) Washington, Jan. 12.—Should the United States call upon the nations of the world for a full and fair discussion concerning the reduction of armaments, favorable response would be prompt and inevitable, General Tasker H. Bliss, former American representative on the supreme war council at Paris, told the house naval committee today.

The general said if a disarmament conference were held "the common people of the world would not allow the conference to dissolve until at least a first forward step was taken." "I do not care," he added, "what cabinets of the world think. The masses of people who pay taxes have a vital interest in this subject."

Meanwhile, he said, all nations of the world are ready to talk disarmament seriously.

The secretary gave the committee detailed information regarding the relative naval strength of the great powers.

Bliss also told the committee the nation which would come to such a conference with a refusal "could be written down as the next Germany, and the United States could make plans accordingly."

WANTS TO TAKE OATH ON CAPITOL'S PORCH

(By Associated Press) Marion, O., Jan. 12.—President-elect Harding today suggested to the inauguration officials at Washington that he take the oath of office on the east porch of the capitol instead of in the senate chamber, as planned by the congressional committee, "provided it can be arranged without special construction for the occasion."

Now that public expenditure has been abandoned, Harding wired Senator Knox, chairman of the congressional inauguration committee, his own concern in the matter was ended, but he is ready to assent to details of the oath taking that the committee deems best.

COLUMBIA YEGGMAN CAUGHT IN INDIANA?

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 12.—The police today received word from the Indianapolis police that they were holding a suspect in the attempt to rob the bank at Columbia, Ky., Monday morning. The suspect, who gave his name as Raymond Driscoll, said he'd been arrested in a bullet-riddled automobile stained with blood. The machine was fired on when it passed through Lebanon. The sheriff of Adair county was notified.

HERE'S "DRINKERS OF SUNSHINE"

(By Associated Press) Algiers, Jan. 12.—"The Drinkers of Sunshine," as the Arab shepherds call themselves in their own language, are on the verge of starvation throughout Algeria and unless wheat is imported from America may have nothing but sunshine as a steady diet during the winter. The threatening famine in Algeria is the result of a long drought. No rain has fallen for a year.

This has proved a calamity for the Arab shepherds, nomads living practically by their flocks. Seventy-five per cent of the sheep in Algeria have died as a result of the drought and the Arab "Drinkers of Sunshine," dreamers and philosophers, incapable of any work but that of guarding their flocks are in dire straits.

FISH GOING DOWN

A large shipment of new lights, brim, bass and salmon just received, 20 to 35 cents a pound. Neff's Fish and Oyster House.

ing meetings ever held by farmers in this county.